

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 20, 2003, has been reviewed and the comments of the Patent and Trademark Office have been considered. Claims 1, 15, 17, and 27-30 have been amended. Applicants submit that entry of the above amendments is proper, at least because these amendments reduce the number of issues for appeal. Claims 1-6, 9, 11, 12 and 14-30 are pending for reconsideration.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-22, 24-26, 28 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,282,275 to Gurbani et al. (hereafter "Gurbani"). Claims 3, 4, 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gurbani in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,898,770 to Valentine (hereafter "Valentine"). Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gurbani in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,946,386 to Rogers et al. (hereafter "Rogers"). Claims 27 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogers in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,282,269 to Bowater et al. (hereafter "Bowater"). Applicants traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the database for storing the caller identifying information is accessible through the gateway and separately via a remote telephonic device. Support for this amendment can be found at least in Figures 4 and 5 which illustrate such separate access. Similarly independent claims 15, 17 and 27-30 have been amended to clarify that access to the caller identifying information retrieval service or the caller identifying information is allowed via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device. Thus, all of the independent claims recite that access to the caller identifying information retrieval service or the caller identifying information is allowed via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device.

Claim 1 also includes a data logging unit in a subscriber switched telephone network, where the data logging unit stores caller identifying information. Similarly independent claims 15, 17 and 27-30 recite that the caller identifying information is logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network. Thus, all of the

present claims also include the feature where caller identifying information has been logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network. Applicants submit that none of the prior art suggested the flexibility of the present invention where access to caller identifying information is allowed via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device, in the context where the caller identifying information has been logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network.

Gurbani discloses allowing access to caller ID information via the internet (see abstract), but in contrast to the present invention as claimed, fails to disclose the flexibility of allowing access to the caller ID information via both the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device. In fact, Gurbani teaches away from allowing access via a means other than the internet. Gurbani discloses that retrieval of the caller ID information should be in the most flexible and advantageous ways, and describes this retrieval to be via an internet protocol network 128 (col. 3, lines 20-30). Thus, Gurbani suggests that retrieval of the caller ID information should be via the internet, and teaches away from other means of retrieval.

The Office Action states on page 6, second full paragraph that the computer disclosed in Gurbani is an Internet phone, and thus suggests that the computer is a telephonic device. Applicants submit that it is not clear that the computer in Gurbani can be considered to be a telephonic device in the fashion recited in the present claims. In any event, Gurbani suggests allowing access to the caller ID information only via the computer through the internet, and thus does not suggest additionally allowing separate access via a telephonic device.

The references of Valentine, and Bowater also do not disclose that access to caller identifying information is allowed via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device, and thus do not cure the deficiencies of Gurbani.

The Office Action states that Rogers fails to teach that the work-at-home computer 114 of Rogers is a telephonic device, and thus the Office Action appears to suggest that Rogers does not disclose access to caller identifying information via a remote telephonic device. Even if Rogers could be interpreted as disclosing allowing separate access via a remote telephonic device, however, Rogers would not cure the deficiencies of Gurbani. In light of Gurbani teaching away from a means of retrieval

other than from the internet, it would not have been obvious to modify Gurbani for access from a remote telephonic device.

Furthermore, Rogers fails to disclose that the call-log of Rogers is within a switched telephone network. Thus, in contrast to the present claims, Rogers does not disclose that the caller identifying information has been logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network.

Moreover, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Rogers to have included the call-log within a switched telephone network. In the Rogers system the calls are logged in a call management computer 101. Rogers discloses that calls to an organization are directly controlled through networked user workstation computers, and the call management computer intercepts telephone and data trunks which link the business to the telephone provider's central office (col. 1, lines 63-67). Thus, a purpose of the Rogers system is to intercept calls between the telephone provider's central office and the business. This purpose is achieved by arranging the call management computer between the telephone provider's central office and the business. Modifying the Rogers system to include the call-log within a switched telephone network would be contrary to the purpose of intercepting calls between the telephone provider's central office and the business. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have modified the Rogers system to have included the call-log within a switched telephone network.

The Office Action asserts that Bowater suggests modifying the Rogers work at home computer to be an internet phone. However, even if there were motivation to so modify the Rogers system (which there is not), the modified system would still not meet the limitations of the present claims, because as discussed above, Rogers does not suggest as recited in the claims that caller identifying information is logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network.

For the reasons given above, applicants submit that all of the present claims are patentable over the cited references of Gurbani, Rogers, Valentine, and Bowater and respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. An early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions regarding the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.

Versions with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Claims:

1. (Three Times Amended) A system comprising:
 - a subscriber telephonic device connected to a subscriber switched telephone network; and
 - a data logging unit in the subscriber switched telephone network, the data logging unit storing caller identifying information upon a call to the subscriber telephonic device from a caller telephonic device in a caller switched telephone network, the data logging unit being connected to a network allowing a subscriber access to the caller identifying information via the network, wherein the data logging unit includes a database for storing the caller identifying information and comprises a gateway connected to the internet, wherein the database is accessible through the gateway and separately via a remote telephonic device.
15. (Twice Amended) A method comprising:
 - accessing a caller identifying information retrieval service via the internet, wherein the caller identifying information retrieval service allows access via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device, and wherein the caller identifying information has been logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network; and
 - inputting a password into the caller identifying information retrieval service via the internet, where caller identifying information has been logged with the caller identifying information retrieval service.
17. (Twice Amended) A method comprising:
 - receiving a call from a subscriber via the internet;
 - prompting the subscriber to input a subscriber password to gain access to caller identifying information where the caller identifying information has been logged; and
 - allowing the subscriber access to the caller identifying information if the subscriber inputs a valid subscriber password, wherein the subscriber may access the caller identifying information via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic

device, and wherein the caller identifying information has been logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network.

27. (Twice Amended) A method comprising:

accessing a caller identifying information retrieval service via the internet, wherein the caller identifying information retrieval service allows access via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device;

viewing caller identifying information via the caller identifying information retrieval service, where the caller identifying information includes an indication of whether callers have left voice mail messages to a subscriber phone, wherein the caller identifying information has been logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network; and

retrieving at least one of the voice mail messages over the internet.

28. (Twice Amended) A method comprising:

a system providing
accessing a caller identifying information retrieval service ~~via the internet~~, wherein the ~~caller identifying information retrieval~~ service allows access via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device; *through internet interface & PSTN interface of said serial system.*

viewing caller identifying information from at least one caller via the caller identifying information retrieval service, wherein the caller identifying information has been logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network; and

calling back the at least one caller via the internet.

29. (Twice Amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for accessing a caller identifying information retrieval service via the internet, wherein the caller identifying information retrieval service allows access via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device;

means for viewing caller identifying information via the caller identifying information retrieval service, where the caller identifying information includes an indication of whether callers have left voice mail messages to a subscriber phone, wherein the caller identifying information has been logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network; and

means for retrieving at least one of the voice mail messages over the internet.

30. (Twice Amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for accessing a caller identifying information retrieval service via the internet, wherein the caller identifying information retrieval service allows access via the internet and separately via a remote telephonic device;

means for viewing caller identifying information from at least one caller via the caller identifying information retrieval service, wherein the caller identifying information has been logged in a data logging unit within a switched telephone network; and

means for calling back the at least one caller via the internet.